LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

At the time of the Action:

Pending Claims: 1, 3- 4, 6-15, 17-23 and 25-27

Canceled Claims: 2, 5, 16, and 24

After this Response:

Pending Claims: 1, 3, 6-15, 17-23, 25, and 27

Amended Claims: 1, 15, and 23

Canceled Claims: 2, 4-5, 16, 24, and 26

1. (Currently Amended)   A computer readable storage medium having computer-executable instructions, the instructions comprising:

receiving a string in an interactive environment;

identifying an attribution within the string that specifies a constraint for an associated construct;

identifying the construct associated with the attribution;

saving information that correlates the constraint attribution with the construct as metadata that is associated with the construct; and

executing the string in the interactive environment, where executing the string includes using the saved information to apply the constraint attribution to the construct when the construct is encountered during execution.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the construct comprises a variable, a structure, a function, or a script.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the string comprises a command string entered in a command line environment.

7. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the string comprises a portion of a script.

8. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein identifying the attribution comprises identifying a plurality of attributions associated with the construct.

9. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the attribution specifies a type for the construct.

10. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the attribution specifies applying intellisense to the construct to auto-complete the construct.

11. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the attribution specifies applying a predicate directive to the string that is operative to determine whether processing of the string continues.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the attribution specifies applying a parsing directive that is operative to direct a manner for obtaining the construct.

13. (Previously Presented)   The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the attribution specifies a data generation directive that is operative to generate a set of information that is stored in the construct.

14. (Previously Presented)   The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the attribution specifies a data validation directive that is operative to determine whether a value assigned to the construct meets a criterion specified by the attribution.

15.   (Currently Amended)   A method for handling constraints specified within an interactive environment, the method comprising:

      identifying a pre-defined begin symbol and end symbol within a string entered in an interactive environment;

      identifying a constraint between the begin symbol and the end symbol;

      identifying a construct following the end symbol;

      saving information that correlates the constraint with the construct_as metadata that is associated with the construct; and

      executing the string in the interactive environment, where executing the string includes using the saved information to apply the constraint to the construct when the construct is encountered during execution.

16.   (Canceled).

17.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 15, wherein the constraint comprises a predicate directive and wherein to apply the constraint comprises determining whether a condition has been met before continuing processing of the construct.

18. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 15, wherein the attribution specifies applying intellisense to the construct to auto-complete the construct.

19. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 15, wherein the attribution specifies applying a parsing directive that is operative to direct a manner for obtaining the construct.

20. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 15, wherein the attribution specifies a data generation directive that is operative to generate a set of information that is stored in the construct.

21. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 15, wherein the attribution specifies a data validation directive that is operative to determine whether a value assigned to the construct meets a criterion specified by the attribution.

22. (Original)   The method of claim 15, wherein the begin symbol comprises a left bracket and the end symbol comprises a right bracket.

23. (Currently Amended) A system that handles input parameters, the system comprising:

    one or more processors ~~means for processing~~; and

    memory to store a plurality of computer-executable instructions for execution by the one or more processors, the computer-executable instructions operable to:

        ~~means for receiving~~ receive a string into a command line interactive environment;

        ~~means for identifying~~ identify an attribution within the string;

~~means for identifying~~ identify a construct associated with the attribution, the attribution that specifies a constraint for the construct;

~~means for saving~~ save information that correlates the~~ constraint~~ ~~attribution~~ with the construct as metadata that is associated with the construct; and

~~means for~~ execute the string in the interactive environment, wherein the execution includes using the saved information to apply the constraint~~ attribution~~ to the construct when the construct is encountered during an execution of the string in the command line interactive environment.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 23, wherein the construct comprises a variable, a structure, a function, or a script.

26. (Canceled).

27. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 23, wherein the attribution specifies applying intellisense to the construct to auto-complete the construct.